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Soc. 4.01.2 The Rope
DancerOrig. under
Marchetti

PROGRAM RADIO NEW YORK

STATION WOR

DATE October 20, 1971

4:25 PM

CITY

New York

INTERVIEW WITH VICTOR MARCHETTI AUTHOR OF "THE ROPE DANCER"

JOHN WINGATE: He was a guest before and he's agreed to come back again. Victor Marchetti, for fourteen years with the Central Intelligence Agency. And he wrote the new novel, "The Rope Dancer", based on the life of a spy.

Victor Marchetti, formerly of the C.I.A., how does a spy work? Does he come into Washington or do they cable him instructions in code or what happens?

VICTOR MARCHETTI: Generally, a spy is recruited in place. This is the preferred way. He is spotted by, say a diplomat may notice that there is a certain individual high up in the target government who seems not to be completely satisfied with the way things are going. He will be observed for a while and he will of course be checked out. When it is considered that he is a good possibility, someone will be flown in usually, they don't want to use anybody operating in that country to make a recruitment pitch to him.

If he accepts the recruitment pitch, and he's doing this on ideological -- for ideological motives, there is not much money going to change hands and whatever money he does get will